

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

*Please replace the paragraph beginning after the heading "BACKGROUND ART" on page 1 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:*

In a conventional reinforcing bar binder, a wire reel around which a wire is wound is retained at the rear portion thereof and, when the switch is turned on and a trigger is manipulated, the wire is drawn out and fed forward from the wire reel through a wire feeding device, discharged in a loop shape from the tip end curved portion of a guide arm and wound onto a reinforcing bar and, thereafter, a twisting hook grips a portion of the loop and torsionally rotates to bind the reinforcing bar. As a ~~configuration for automatically adjusting the wire twisting torque~~ configuration for automatically adjusting the wire twisting torque of such a reinforcing bar binder, there has been a configuration which provides displaying means for displaying the type of a wire on the side surface of a wire reel, employs detecting means provided on the reinforcing bar binder for detecting the displaying means, identifies the type of the wire on the basis of the result of detection from the detecting means and automatically adjusts the twisting torque, as disclosed in JP-B No. 3050369.